

# Oscoda County Road Commission

Steven Defour

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Superintendent

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James R. Houlton

Chairman

Roger Wiegand

Vice-Chairman

Thomas Siegler

Member

Dennis P. Morse

Member

Dave Yoder

Member

11/27/2018

To Whom it May Concern:

Senate Bill 396 (S-5) removes most regulation of the timber hauling industry and is targeted directly at county roads, paved and unpaved. Sensible regulation of some of the heaviest trucks on unpaved or old paved roads is needed to secure road conditions. Preservation of our roads benefits all residents of and visitors to Michigan, as well as all industries, including the timber industry.

If SB 396 (S-5) passes the Michigan Legislature, more damage will occur to Michigan's struggling local road network.

The government of Oscoda County Michigan is proactive in protecting its road system and stands in strong opposition to Senate Bill 396 (S-5) and therefore has passed the enclosed resolutions in opposition of SB 396 for your review.

Sincerely,



Steven Defour  
Manager, Oscoda County Road Commission





**RESOLUTION #2018-082**

**OSCODA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**  
**SENATE BILL 396 OPPOSITION**

**WHEREAS,** Roads are the backbone to the social, cultural and economic stability of Oscoda County and the State of Michigan; and

**WHEREAS,** Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018 allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (aka "frost laws") to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS,** It is a fact in Oscoda County and throughout the northern states that roads become soft in the spring and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading on soft roads, is foolhardiness that defies common sense and a law allowing such nonsense is poor public policy; and

**WHEREAS,** SB 396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions from SB 396 will result in damage to the public road system; and

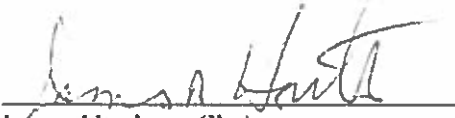
**WHEREAS,** the provisions of SB 396 will negatively impact the traveling public accessing the road system, resulting in burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs to maintain the public road system; and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Oscoda County residents and the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS,** the Oscoda County Road Commission and the other road commissions throughout the State of Michigan work closely with the logging industry to keep the economic vitality of the County and the State of Michigan moving by continuously monitoring road conditions and permitting the logging industry to move equipment and material on roads when the roads can structurally support such loading without negatively impacting the road system and traveling public;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Oscoda County Road Commission hereby strongly opposes SB 396; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a vote hereon be taken by aye and nay and spread at large on the minutes of the Board.

  
James Houlton, Chairman  
Oscoda County Road Commission





# COUNTY OF OSCODA

Board of Commissioners  
Telephone (989) 826-1130  
Fax Line (989) 826-1173

Oscoda County Courthouse Annex 105 S. Court Street, P.O. Box 399, Mio, MI 48647

## RESOLUTION 2018-019

### “Senate Bill 396 Opposition”

**WHEREAS**, Roads are the backbone to the social, cultural and economic stability of Oscoda County and the State of Michigan; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018 allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (aka “frost laws”) to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS**, It is a fact in Oscoda County and throughout the northern states that roads become soft in the spring and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading on soft roads, is fool hardness that defies common sense and a law allowing such nonsense is poor public policy; and

**WHEREAS**, SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions from SB 396 will result in damage to the public road system; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of SB 396 will negatively impact the traveling public accessing the road system, resulting in burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs to maintain the public road system; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Oscoda County residents and the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oscoda County Road Commission and the other Road Commissions throughout the State of Michigan work closely with the logging industry to keep the economic vitality of the County and the State of Michigan moving by continuously monitoring road conditions and permitting the logging industry to move equipment and material on roads when the roads can structurally support such loading without negatively impacting the road system and traveling public;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Oscoda County Board of Commissioners along with the Road Commission hereby strongly opposes SB 396; and

**Motion #2018-244**

Moved by Commissioner Kelly and supported by Commissioner Kischnick to adopt the above Resolution at a Regular meeting of the Oscoda County Board of Commissioners held on November 13, 2018.

**Roll Call Vote:** Kischnick, yes; Olsen, yes; Nutt, yes;  
Kelly, yes; Wilson, yes. **Motion Carried.**

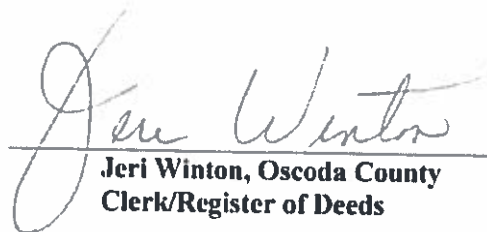
**RESOLUTION #2018-018 DECLARED ADOPTED**  
"Senate Bill 396 Opposition"



\_\_\_\_\_  
**LaNita Olsen, Chair**  
**Oscoda County Board of Commissioners**

**STATE OF MICHIGAN}**  
**COUNTY OF OSCODA}**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Oscoda County Board of Commissioners held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, and that the said minutes are on file in the office of the Oscoda County Clerk and are available for public inspection.



\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jeri Winton, Oscoda County**  
**Clerk/Register of Deeds**

**MENTOR TOWNSHIP  
RESOLUTION 2018 -2**

**RESOLUTION ON SENATE BILL 396**

**WHEREAS,** Roads are the backbone of the social, cultural and economic stability of Oscoda County and our region, and particularly Mentor Township which makes significant annual contributions to preservation, maintenance and other activities on the local road system; and

**WHEREAS,** Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018, allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (also known as "frost laws") to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS,** It is a fact in Mentor Township and throughout all Northern states that all roads become soft in the spring as frost melts, and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading and traffic on soft roads, whether paved or unpaved, is poor public policy that defies common sense when it comes to road preservation, and will lead to significant damage to the road system, economic damage in Mentor Township and increased risk to drivers in our region; and

**WHEREAS,** SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions of SB 396 *will result in costly damage to the public road system which is the opposite of what the Michigan Legislature and the people of Michigan called for in the 2015 Michigan Transportation Package;* and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions of SB 396 *will negatively impact the traveling public accessing the road system, burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs, as well as increased county and township contributions to maintain the public road system;* and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Mentor Township residents and the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS,** the Mentor Township works closely with the Oscoda County Road Commission to maintain our vital local road network and to accommodate the logging industry wherever possible to also maintain the economic vitality of our region;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that Mentor Township hereby **strongly opposes** SB 396 (S-5); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that a vote hereon be taken by aye and nay and spread at large on the minutes of the Board.

**Roll Call Vote:** Wyckoff Yes, Galbraith Yes, Trim Yes, Hoffman Yes, Kerschenheiter Yes. **Approved.**

**Adopted**

Regular Meeting of the Mentor Township Board November 19, 2018

**Certification:**



Thomas Galbraith  
Mentor Township Clerk





**OSCODA COUNTY CHAPTER  
MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION  
RESOLUTION OF OPPOSITION TO  
SENATE BILL 396**

**WHEREAS,** Roads are the backbone of the social, cultural and economic stability of Oscoda County and our region, and all of the Townships in our county make significant annual contributions to preservation, maintenance and other activities on the local road system; and

**WHEREAS,** Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018, allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (also known as "frost laws") to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS,** It is a fact in all six townships and throughout all Northern states that all roads become soft in the spring as frost melts, and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading and traffic on soft roads, whether paved or unpaved, is poor public policy that defies common sense when it comes to road preservation, and will lead to significant damage to the road system, economic damage in all six townships and increased risk to drivers in our region; and

**WHEREAS,** SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

**WHEREAS,** Oscoda Counties six townships are predominately State of Michigan and Huron Manistee national forest lands which have extensive logging and mineral extraction activities occurring all year long; and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions of SB 396 *will result in costly damage to the public road system which, is the opposite of what the Michigan Legislature and the people of Michigan called for in the 2015 Michigan Transportation Package;* and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions of SB 396 *will negatively impact the traveling public* accessing the road system, burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs, as well as increased county and township contributions to maintain the public road system; and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of the residents of all six townships within Oscoda County and the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS,** all six townships within Oscoda County work closely with the Oscoda County Road Commission to maintain our vital local road network and to accommodate the logging industry wherever possible to also maintain the economic vitality of our region;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Oscoda County Chapter of the Michigan Township Association hereby **strongly opposes** SB 396 (S-5); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a vote has been taken of the membership of said organization and this Resolution of Opposition of SB 396 and that we wholeheartedly oppose this proposed legislation.

I attest that this resolution was duly adopted by the Oscoda County Chapter of the Michigan Townships Association at their regular meeting held on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018



James (Randy) Booth Chairman  
Oscoda County MTA Chapter

## **GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP**

### **RESOLUTION No. 11132018-4: SENATE BILL 396**

**WHEREAS**, roads are the backbone of the social, cultural and economic stability of Oscoda County and our region, and particularly Greenwood Township, which makes significant annual contributions to preservation, maintenance and other activities on the local road system; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018, allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (also known as "frost laws") to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS**, it is a fact in Greenwood Township and throughout all Northern states that all roads become soft in the spring as frost melts, and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading and traffic on soft roads, whether paved or unpaved, is poor public policy that defies common sense when it comes to road preservation, and will lead to significant damage to the road system, economic damage in Greenwood Township and increased risk to drivers in our region; and

**WHEREAS**, SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of SB 396 *will result in costly damage to the public road system which is the opposite of what the Michigan Legislature and the people of Michigan called for in the 2015 Michigan Transportation Package*; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of SB 396 *will negatively impact the traveling public* accessing the road system, burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs, as well as increased county and township contributions to maintain the public road system; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Greenwood Township residents and the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS**, Greenwood Township works closely with the Oscoda County Road Commission to maintain our vital local road network and to accommodate the logging industry wherever possible to also maintain the economic vitality of our region;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Greenwood Township hereby **strongly opposes** SB 396 (S-5); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a vote hereon be taken by aye and nay and spread at large on the minutes of the Board. Motion made by Havrilla to approve the Resolution regarding Senate Bill396 as presented. McCauley seconds.

Ayes: Havrilla, McCauley, Scott, Miller, and Lindsey.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

The Supervisor declared the resolution adopted 11-13-2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Suzanne O. Scott, Clerk  
Greenwood Township

**ELMER TOWNSHIP  
RESOLUTION ON SENATE BILL 396**

**WHEREAS**, Roads are the backbone of the social, cultural and economic stability of Oscoda County and our region, and particularly Elmer Township which makes significant annual contributions to preservation, maintenance and other activities on the local road system; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018, allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (also known as “frost laws”) to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS**, It is a fact in Elmer Township and throughout all Northern states that all roads become soft in the spring as frost melts, and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading and traffic on soft roads, whether paved or unpaved, is poor public policy that defies common sense when it comes to road preservation, and will lead to significant damage to the road system, economic damage in Elmer Township and increased risk to drivers in our region; and

**WHEREAS**, SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of SB 396 *will result in costly damage to the public road system which is the opposite of what the Michigan Legislature and the people of Michigan called for in the 2015 Michigan Transportation Package*; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions of SB 396 *will negatively impact the traveling public* accessing the road system, burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs, as well as increased county and township contributions to maintain the public road system; and

**WHEREAS**, the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Elmer Township residents and the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS**, the Elmer Township works closely with the Oscoda County Road Commission to maintain our vital local road network and to accommodate the logging industry wherever possible to also maintain the economic vitality of our region;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Elmer Township hereby **strongly opposes** SB 396 (S-5); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a vote hereon be taken by aye and nay and spread at large on the minutes of the Board.



**CLINTON TOWNSHIP  
RESOLUTION ON SENATE BILL 396**

**WHEREAS,** Roads are the backbone of the social, cultural and economic stability of Oscoda County and our region, and particularly Clinton Township which makes significant annual contributions to preservation, maintenance and other activities on the local road system; and

**WHEREAS,** Senate Bill (SB) 396 (S-5) passed and reported out of the Senate Transportation Committee on September 6, 2018, allows exemptions from seasonal weight restrictions (also known as "frost laws") to the forest product industry during the spring thaw when roads are the most vulnerable to damage from heavy loads; and

**WHEREAS,** It is a fact in Clinton Township and throughout all Northern states that all roads become soft in the spring as frost melts, and applying unrestricted 164,000-pound truck loading and traffic on soft roads, whether paved or unpaved, is poor public policy that defies common sense when it comes to road preservation, and will lead to significant damage to the road system, economic damage in Clinton Township and increased risk to drivers in our region; and

**WHEREAS,** SB-396 also grants exemptions to the forest industry that will allow the hauling of forest products and transport of equipment on the public road system without obtaining proper permits from road authorities at all times of the year; and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions of SB 396 *will result in costly damage to the public road system which is the opposite of what the Michigan Legislature and the people of Michigan called for in the 2015 Michigan Transportation Package;* and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions of SB 396 *will negatively impact the traveling public* accessing the road system, burdening road authorities with expensive reactive maintenance repairs and significantly increased taxpayer costs, as well as increased county and township contributions to maintain the public road system; and

**WHEREAS,** the provisions in SB 396 and subsequent impacts to the local road system will negatively impact the health, safety and welfare of Clinton Township residents and the traveling public; and

**WHEREAS,** the Clinton Township works closely with the Oscoda County Road Commission to maintain our vital local road network and to accommodate the logging industry wherever possible to also maintain the economic vitality of our region;

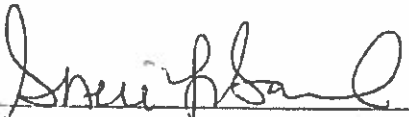
**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that Clinton Township hereby **strongly opposes** SB 396 (S-5); and

The forgoing resolution was offered Board Member: Dale Henig And seconded by

Board Member: Violet Kalbfleish

Upon Roll call vote the following voted: AYE: Kalbfleish, Henig, Larrison, Sanderson,  
NAY: - none Neff

The supervisor declared this resolution adopted.



Sheri Sanderson, Clerk

11-5-2018

Date

